



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS REGULATIONS BOARD
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

11524

[49 CFR Part 178]

[Docket No. HM-87; Notice No. 71-18]

TRANSPORTATION OF HAZARDOUS
MATERIALS

Cargo Tank Attachments

The Hazardous Materials Regulations Board is considering amending § 178.340-8 of the Department's Hazardous Materials Regulations to clarify the requirements for accessory attachments to specifications MC 306, MC 307, and MC 312 cargo tanks.

The Truck Trailer Manufacturer's Association and the Steel Tank Institute both have petitioned the Board to clarify the regulations regarding light-weight attachments to a cargo tank shell. In view of the present requirements for pads at the point of all appurtenance attachments made by welding, difficulty in application of the regulations has arisen regarding non-liquid-carrying appurtenances welded to a cargo tank shell or head. Data were submitted to substantiate the performance standards described in the proposed rule, showing that these attachments can be made without adversely affecting tank integrity. The Board believes there is merit in the petitioners' proposals.

In consideration of the foregoing, it is proposed to amend 49 CFR Part 178 as follows:

In § 178.340-8, paragraph (a) would be amended to read as follows:

§ 178.340 General design and construction requirements applicable to specification MC 306 (§ 178.341), MC 307 (§ 178.342), and MC 312 (§ 178.343) cargo tanks.

§ 178.340-8 Accident damage protection.

(a) Appurtenances: The term "appurtenance" means any cargo tank accessory attachment that has no liquid product retention or other liquid containment function, and provides no structural support to the tank.

(1) The design, construction, and installation of any appurtenance to the shell or head of the cargo tank must be such as to minimize the possibility of appurtenance damage or failure adversely affecting the product retention integrity of the tank.

(2) Structural members, such as the suspension subframe, overturn protection and external rings, when practicable, should be utilized as sites for attachment of appurtenances and any other accessories to a cargo tank.

(3) Except as prescribed in subparagraph (5) of this paragraph, the welding of any appurtenance to a shell or head must be made by attachment to a mounting pad. The thickness of a mounting pad must not be less than that of the shell

or head to which it is attached. A pad must extend at least 2 inches in each direction from any point of attachment of an appurtenance. Pads must have rounded corners or otherwise be shaped in a manner to preclude stress concentrations on the shell or head. The mounting pad must be attached by a continuous weld around the pad.

(4) The appurtenance must be attached to the mounting pad so there will be no adverse effect upon the product-retention integrity of the tank if any force is applied to the appurtenance, in any direction, except normal to the tank, or within 45° of normal.

(5) Side cabinets, conduit clips, brake-line clips, and similar light attaching devices which are of a metal thickness, construction, or material appreciably less strong but not more than 72 percent of the thickness of the tank shell or head to which such a device is attached, may be secured directly to the tank shell or head if each device is so designed and installed that damage to it will not affect the product retention integrity of the tank. Welds must be of the lap type. These light weight attachments should be secured to the tank shell by continuous weld as to preclude formation of pockets, which may become sites for incipient corrosion.

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Interested persons are invited to give their views on this proposal. Communications should identify the docket number and be submitted in duplicate to the Secretary, Hazardous Materials Regulations Board, Department of Transportation, 400 Sixth Street SW., Washington, DC 20590. Communications received on or before August 24, 1971, will be considered before final action is taken on the proposal. All comments received will be available for examination by interested persons at the Office of the Secretary, Hazardous Materials Regulations Board, both before and after the closing date for comments.

This proposal is made under the authority of sections 831-835 of title 18, United States Code, and section 9 of the Department of Transportation Act (49 U.S.C. 1657).

Issued in Washington, D.C., on June 8, 1971.

W. F. REA III,
Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard,
Chief, Office of Merchant
Marine Safety, by direction
of the Commandant.

KENNETH L. PIERSON,
Acting Director, Bureau of
Motor Carrier Safety, Federal
Highway Administration.

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